

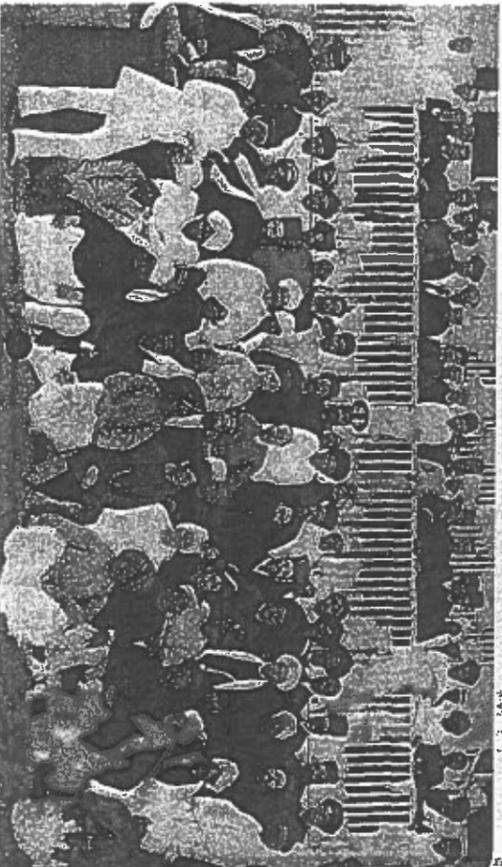
# Independence for India

British influence in India began in the 1600s, and over the next few hundred years, the British took control of large parts of India. In 1858, during the reign of Queen Victoria, the British government took direct control of India. The British ran many aspects of everyday life, such as education, the army, railways, and law and order. Queen Victoria proudly called herself 'Empress of India'. But less than 100 years later, in 1947, India regained its independence from Britain. How did this happen?

## Objectives

- Recall key events in the campaign for Indian independence.
- Examine the role of two world wars in the ending of British rule in India.

▼ **SOURCE A** Members of the Indian National Congress, 1885.



## The Indian National Congress

Many Indians believed that India should be free from British control. In 1885, a political group called the Indian National Congress (INC) was formed to bring this about. It held meetings and organised demonstrations to further its cause, but the British ignored its demands. Britain did not want India to be independent because it provided Britain with raw materials, cheap workers and lots of trade links.

The INC was particularly influential and popular in Bengal, in the northeastern part of India. The growing support for independence worried the British – they just didn't want to 'lose' India.

### Fact

The British used the 'divide and rule' strategy to create divisions in India among the different religious groups, regions, classes and ethnicities. For example, the British encouraged people to vote according to their religions. They also controlled the media and allowed only certain information to be published in newspapers to try to control what people thought. Also, certain areas were given more development than others. More roads and railways were developed in one region than another, for example – and this caused unrest and conflict between the regions. The British hoped that any ill feeling would be directed to different regions and religions, rather than towards the British themselves.

## The Swadeshi movement

As a result, Lord Curzon (the Viceroy of India) announced plans to partition Bengal. He felt that if Bengal was split up into separate regions, it would become difficult for people to join together and form a united independence movement. This tactic is known as 'divide and rule'.

People in India were strongly against the partition. Many Hindus were angry that a Muslim majority province had been created. In response, Indians established the Swadeshi movement to try to reduce the profits of British companies by boycotting their products. For example, they refused to buy imported cloth from Lancashire or salt from Cheshire, and encouraged Indians to make cloth in their own homes instead of buying British-made material. British-run schools and courts were also boycotted. The National Council of Education was founded in Bengal in 1906 to promote science and technology – and prove that Indians could educate themselves.

▼ **SOURCE B** From a leaflet written in 1907 by Indians in Bengal, who wanted the British out.

'Can these thieves really be our rulers? These thieves ... import a huge number of goods made in their own country and sell them in our markets, stealing our wealth and taking life from our people. Can those who steal the harvest of our fields and doom us to hunger, fever and plague really be our rulers? Can foreigners really be our rulers?'

## The British response

The British responded harshly to people involved in the Swadeshi movement. Any protesters faced arrest, and students who took part in boycotts were often made to leave their colleges. Once the leaders of the Swadeshi movement were arrested, it was difficult to replace them. However, in 1911, the British reversed the partition and Bengal was reunified. Also, many leaders of the future (such as Mohandas Gandhi) were inspired by the Swadeshi movement.

## India and the First World War

In 1914–1918, many Indians fought alongside British soldiers in the First World War, and India gave Britain a huge amount of money, food and materials to help with the war effort. There were 1.3 million Indian soldiers who fought in the war, and over 74,000 died. In 1919, after India's significant contribution in wartime, the British made slight changes to the way India was governed. Law-making councils were set up all across India and over five million property-owning, educated Indians were given the vote. However, the British government still controlled taxation, the police, the law courts, the armed forces, education, and much more. While some Indians welcomed the changes, others were bitterly disappointed and there were many large demonstrations.

### ► SOURCE C

Darwan Singh Negi, one of the first Indian winners of the Victoria Cross, Britain's top bravery medal. During the First World War he fought in France in an Indian battalion of the British army.



### Key Words

partition    boycotting

## The Jallianwala Bagh massacre

One such demonstration took place in an enclosed park called Jallianwala Bagh in the city of Amritsar (close to the Golden Temple complex – see page 37). The park was packed with around 10,000 men, women and children. However, while some people were protesting against British rule, many others had simply gathered to celebrate a Sikh festival.

The British had banned large gatherings of people, but not everyone was aware of this. Without warning, a British general ordered soldiers to block the only exit from the park and shoot into the unarmed crowd. Over 350 people were killed, and thousands more injured.

### Over to You

- 1 Write a sentence or two to define:
  - a the INC
  - b the Swadeshi movement
  - c the 'divide and rule' strategy
- 2 Make a list of the ways that India contributed to British efforts in the First World War.
- 3 a Read **Source B**. Who do you think the 'thieves' were?
  - b What point does the source make about British rule?

### Change and Continuity

- 1 Describe the changes that were made to the way India was governed after the First World War.
- 2 Explain why some Indians might have been happy with these changes, while others might have been disappointed.

## Mohandas Gandhi

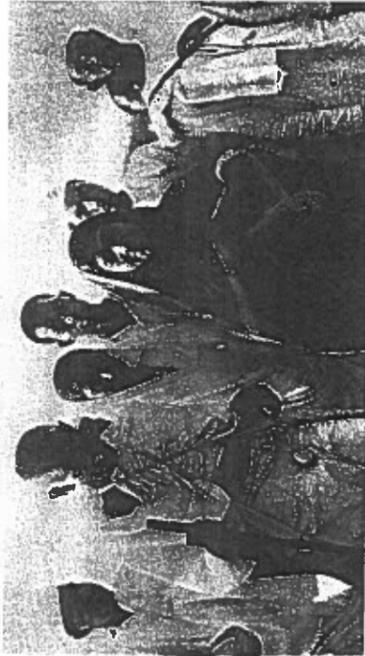
In the 1920s, the Indian independence movement gained more support under the leadership of Mohandas Gandhi, a Hindu and former lawyer. He believed independence could be achieved through non-violent protest. Today, this is often called 'passive resistance'. Gandhi called it 'satyagraha', which roughly translates as 'holding firmly to truth' or 'truth force'. His approach influenced future leaders like Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela. Perhaps the most famous non-violent protest at this time was the 1930 Salt March.

## The Salt March

At this time, Indians were not allowed to make their own salt – they had to buy it – and it was heavily taxed by the British government. Gandhi and 78 leaders of the independence movement marched with thousands of protesters to the coast where they began making salt from seawater. All over India, thousands of people copied Gandhi's example and began making salt – and around 60,000 people were arrested, including Gandhi.

After Gandhi was released from prison, the British accepted they had to take the calls for independence more seriously – and they invited Gandhi to London as a representative of the Indian National Congress.

▼ **SOURCE D** Gandhi, on the Salt March with Sarojini Naidu, a key figure in the independence movement. In 1925, Naidu became the first female president of the INC, and travelled to the USA to promote non-violent protest. When Gandhi was arrested during the salt tax protest, Naidu became the new leader of the campaign.



### Fact

Gandhi's followers called him 'Mahatma', which in Sanskrit means 'great soul'.

### Fact

The Indian National Congress first met in December 1885. In the early twentieth century, members began to support the Swadeshi movement, and by 1917, the INC had become very popular. In the 1920s and 1930s, led by Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi, the INC began advocating non-violent protest, including the famous Salt March of 1930.

The Muslim League was founded in 1906 to protect the rights of Indian Muslims, many of whom were worried that Hindus dominated politics. For several decades after its formation the League (led most notably by Mohammed Ali Jinnah) called for Hindu-Muslim unity in an independent, united India. However, in 1940, the League called for the formation of a Muslim state that would be separate from the independent country of India. It wanted a separate nation for India's Muslims because it feared that an independent India would be dominated by Hindus.

## Towards independence

In 1935, the Government of India Act gave some self-government to India. For example, elections were introduced (where some women could vote) but India still remained part of the British Empire and was still ruled by a viceroy, appointed by the British. Many Indians, including Gandhi and the INC, continued to demand complete independence. Many Muslims in India had formed their own independence group (the Muslim League). Their leader, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, called for a new, separate country for Indian Muslims.

## India during the Second World War

In 1939, Britain declared war on Germany. It also declared war on behalf of India, without consulting Indian leaders. However, as in the First World War, thousands of Indians joined up to fight as part of the British Empire forces. In total, 2.5 million Indians fought in what was the largest volunteer army in history. The Muslim League supported the war. Many in the INC were prepared to support the war only in exchange for full independence. Others did not agree with fighting because of their non-violent beliefs.

By 1942, there was widespread discontent in India. The British were worried as Japanese forces were very close to the Indian border. In response, the British government sent Sir Stafford Cripps to negotiate with Indian leaders.

▼ **SOURCE E** Indian soldiers fighting as part of the British army with a captured Nazi flag in the Libyan desert, 1943.



He asked for full cooperation in the war effort in exchange for a greater degree of self-government after the war. However, the INC wanted full independence and so no agreement was reached.

## The Quit India movement

At a meeting of the Indian National Congress in August 1942, Gandhi made a call for the British to 'Quit India' immediately. He called for all Indians to peacefully resist British rule. The British responded by immediately arresting Gandhi and almost all the leaders of the INC. The British also banned public meetings.

However, the arrest of the INC leaders led to mass demonstrations, strikes and disruption around the country. Over 100,000 people were imprisoned by the British as a result. Although the Quit India movement did not lead to independence immediately, it again highlighted the strength of feeling among a huge number of Indians against the British position there.

## Subash Chandra Bose and the Indian National Army

In 1941, Subash Chandra Bose, a former president of the INC, escaped India and fled to Germany. He believed that by helping Germany and Japan defeat Britain, India could gain independence. He founded the Indian National Army (INA) of around 45,000 people, mostly from Indians living abroad and Indian prisoners of war. In 1944, the INA and Japan invaded India but they suffered a heavy defeat. Despite this, Bose was very influential within India. Japanese radio stations broadcast speeches by Bose in a number of Indian languages, focusing on the difficulties facing India, such as lack of self-government and famine.

▼ **SOURCE F** Subash Chandra Bose, founder of the Indian National Army, meeting Adolf Hitler in Germany, May 1942.



## Independence for India

The calls for Indian independence continued, and by the end of the war many other British colonies (as well as India) were demanding the right to rule themselves. Britain no longer had the military strength or the wealth to hold on to them. Also, many British people felt that rebuilding Britain after the war was far more of a priority than holding on to distant colonies. By 1946, the British government had agreed that India would become independent.

## Over to You

1 a Write a sentence for each of the following:

- satyagraha
- the Salt March
- Mohandas Gandhi
- Sarojini Naidu
- the Quit India movement

b Write a paragraph to link them together.

2 a What was the INA?

b Many in the British government viewed the setting up of the Indian National Army as a huge blow to Britain. Why do you think they felt this?

## Causation

Explain what role the world wars played in ending British rule in India.

# 4A The colonisation of Australia

The oldest human remains discovered in Australia were found in 1968 at Lake Mungo in New South Wales, around 750km from Sydney. This site has been occupied by Indigenous Australians for at least the last 47,000 years. When the British arrived (1788), there was an estimated Indigenous population of 750,000 people in Australia. However, the British believed at Australia was a 'land belonging to no one' ('*terra nullius*') and that they believed they had a right to invade and take possession of the land. So, how did this happen? Was there conflict between Indigenous Australians and the British? What impact did this have on the Indigenous population?

## Objectives

- Examine the conflict between Indigenous Australians and the British.
- Explain the impact of British settlement on both the Australian environment and the Indigenous Australian people.

## British expansion

The first few decades after the British arrived, they began to take over different parts of Australia. They set up farms and looked for gold and valuable minerals like opal. This caused many problems for the environment. For example, miners dug up the land and polluted streams and rivers. Farmers cleared land and they could grow food and did not take care to protect the Australian plants and animals.

New settlements were set up in Hobart (1803), on the Tasmanian coast, on the Swan River (1829), on Port Phillip Bay (1835) and on Gulf St Vincent (1836). By this time, the British population in Australia was around 10,000. Today, the major cities of Hobart (in Tasmania), Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne are found on or near these sites.

## A new generation

Australia was first used by the British mainly as a place to send their criminals – but things started to change when convicts decided to stay at the end of their sentences. Some became farmers. An 'Australia-born' generation grew up too – people who were born in Australia and regarded themselves as 'Australian'. And with more 'free settlers' arriving, the population of Australia grew to 405,000 by 1850. By now the colonies each had their own councils and governors taking decisions on how to run things. Soon, this new generation of Australians began to object to Britain sending criminals to Australia. Transportation ended in 1868 – by which time a total of 162,000 convicts had been sent to Australia on 806 'transport ships'.

## INTERPRETATION A

A painting by Gordon Syron called *Invasion Day 2018*. Syron has created more than 150 paintings showing the invasion and colonisation of Australia.



## The Frontier Wars

Many Indigenous Australians resisted the arrival of the British colonists. This series of conflicts and battles is commonly known as the Frontier Wars and lasted from 1788 until the 1930s. One of the first leaders of this resistance was a warrior named Pemulwuy, a member of the Bidjigal nation, near what is now Botany Bay, New South Wales.

From 1792, Pemulwuy led raids on British settlements. To begin, the raiders took food, but sometimes attacked to get revenge on settlers who had attacked them. Despite a massive hunt for Pemulwuy and his followers, he avoided capture for many years. He was once shot seven times in battle – but this just added to the rumour that Pemulwuy could not be killed by British guns. Eventually, though, Pemulwuy was shot dead in 1802 during an ambush. His head was cut off and sent to London with a letter saying that he 'was a terrible pest to the colony, but a brave and independent character'. In Australia today, Pemulwuy is a very famous Indigenous Australian. There is an area of Sydney named after him, and a park. Other resistance fighters who led their people against the British settlers, such as Dundali, Yagan and Jandamarra, are well known too, and their stories are taught to Australian schoolchildren.

## British massacres

Between the 1790s and the 1920s, there were hundreds of massacres of Indigenous Australians. For example, in 1838, at Myall Creek in northern New South Wales, white colonists murdered 28 Indigenous men, women and children. In Queensland, in 1842 and 1847, Indigenous people were given gifts of flour laced with poison. Around 150 people died as a result. However, it is really hard to know the true number of massacres because they were often covered up by the authorities.

**INTERPRETATION B** From an article on an Australian educational website.

'The land of Aboriginal peoples was claimed under the 'legal fiction' of *terra nullius*, enabling the dispossession of Aboriginal lands... "*Terra nullius*" translates to "nobody's land", but the truth is the British claim on the land disregarded evidence documented by early settlers and explorers that, prior to colonisation, Aboriginal people had well established systems of land and water use.'

**SOURCE C** An engraving by Samuel John Neele from 1803. It is believed to be the only known image of Pemulwuy.



**SOURCE D** Adapted from a text by Edward Wilson, the British-born editor of an Australian daily newspaper, *The Argus*, writing in March 1856.

'In less than twenty years we have nearly swept them off the face of the earth. We have shot them down like dogs. Whilst pretending to offer friendship we have poisoned their food and condemned whole tribes to an excruciating death. We have made them drunkards, and infected them with diseases... We have made them outcasts on their own land, and are rapidly consigning them to destruction.'

## Over to You

- 1 a By 1850, in what ways had Australia changed since the British first arrived?  
b Why did transportation end in 1868?
- 2 Read **Interpretation B**. Why did the British think it was acceptable to build their settlements in Australia, even if it meant conflict with Indigenous Australians?
- 3 a What were the Frontier Wars?  
b Who was Pemulwuy and why is he famous?  
c Why do you think Indigenous Australians resisted the British invasion so strongly?

## Source Analysis

- a Look at **Source D**. Summarise what the writer is saying about the British treatment of Indigenous Australians.
- b How useful is this source to a historian studying the treatment of Indigenous Australians?

### Impact of the Frontier Wars

Historians have argued for years over how many Indigenous Australians were killed in the various battles, acts of resistance and open massacres. Some say approximately 20,000 Indigenous people were killed and around 2,500 British were killed. Other estimates put it as high as 60,000 Indigenous people in one area of Australia alone (Queensland).

### The impact of disease

Indigenous people also died from diseases (such as smallpox and measles) that were introduced by the British. Governor Arthur Phillip reported that smallpox had killed around half of the Indigenous Australians in the Sydney region within just over a year of the arrival of the First Fleet. Indeed, as a result of disease and violent conflict, it has been estimated that the Indigenous population was reduced by at least 90 per cent in southern Australia by 1850.

**SOURCE E** An Indigenous man called Yagan, speaking to the advocate general of Victoria in the early nineteenth century. The term 'blackfellow' can be considered offensive.

'Why do you white people come in ships to our country and shoot down poor blackfellows who do not understand you – you listen to me! The wild blackfellows do not understand your laws, every living animal that roams the country, and every edible fruit that grows in the ground are common property ... For every black man you fellows shoot, I will kill a white man.'

**SOURCE G** Part of the Australian Prime Minister's apology to the Indigenous Australian parents and children of the 'Stolen Generations'.

### The 'Stolen Generations'

In the later part of the 1800s there was an attempt in many areas to strip Indigenous Australians of their heritage and cultural identity. For example, children were taken from their families to go and live in white Christian homes, and their grief-stricken parents were made to work for white colonists. The children were forbidden to speak their own language or take part in their traditional rituals. They had to get special permission to marry when they were older or to move from place to place, and their employment was strictly controlled. These children, perhaps as many as 100,000, who were taken from their families between the late 1800s and 1969 are known as the 'Stolen Generations'. In January 2008, the whole of the country stopped to listen as Australia's Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, officially apologised for the treatment of these children.

**SOURCE F** Testimony from an Indigenous woman who was separated from her family at 12 months old. Thirteen years later they met, just once, but the woman's mother died two years after that. From the *National Inquiry into the Forced Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their Families*.

'When I first met my mother – when I was 14 – she wasn't what they said she was. They made her sound like she was stupid, you know, they made her sound so bad. And when I saw her she was so beautiful. Mum said, 'My baby's been crying' and she walked into the room and she stood there and I walked into my mother and we hugged and this hot, hot rush just from the tip of my toes up to my head filled every part of my body. That was my first feeling of love and it only could come from my mum. I was so happy and that was the last time I got to see her.'

'We apologise for the laws and policies of successive governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these, our fellow Australians.'

'We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal children from their families, communities and their country.'

'For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.'

'To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.'

'And for the indignity and degradation this inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.'

### Indigenous Australians today

By 1900, the population of Indigenous Australians had declined to about 90,000. Today the population stands at around 800,000, making up about 3.3 per cent of Australia's population. Sadly, there are still huge inequalities in many areas of life between Indigenous Australians and non-Indigenous Australians. Indigenous Australians have a life expectancy on average eight years lower than non-Indigenous Australians. They are less likely to stay in education and are far more likely to be unemployed than non-Indigenous Australians. Clearly, there is still a long way to go in order to put the descendants of the first Australians on an equal footing with those of the non-Indigenous population.

**SOURCES H and I** In recent years, the Indigenous Australian population has worked hard to get their own flags recognised. In modern Australia these flags have become commonly known, official flags.



The Torres Strait

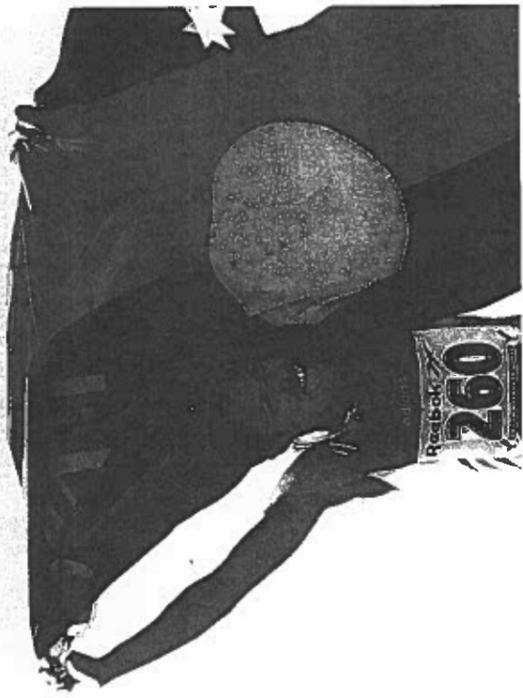
The Torres Strait Islander flag: green symbolises the land and blue represents the waters of the Torres Strait. The white five-pointed star represents the five major island groups. The white dhari is a traditional dancer's headdress and symbolises the Torres Strait Islander people themselves.



The Australian

Aboriginal flag: black represents the colour of the people, red is the colour of the land and yellow is for the Sun.

**SOURCE J** Indigenous Australian athlete, Cathy Freeman, draped in both the Australian and Aboriginal flags after winning gold in the women's 400 metres at the 1994 Commonwealth Games. She also set up the Cathy Freeman Foundation (now known as Community Spirit Foundation) in 2007 to work with four remote Indigenous communities to close the gap in education between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian children.



**SOURCE K** Australia's \$50 banknote features David Unaipon (1872–1967), a Ngarrindjeri man, preacher, inventor, Indigenous rights advocate and the first Aboriginal writer to be published. The design elements on the banknote reflect aspects of Unaipon's life, such as shields from the Ngarrindjeri nation.



### Consequence

Describe two consequences of British colonisation of Australia for Indigenous Australians.

### Over to You

Design a leaflet, poster or presentation about the effect of colonisation on Indigenous Australians.

Make sure you include:

- a definition of the term 'Indigenous Australian'
- information about the Indigenous Australian way of life before the colonisers arrived
- reasons why Indigenous Australians and colonisers clashed
- details of the 'Stolen Generations'
- facts about Indigenous Australians today.

## Independence in Africa

In the early 1920s, Britain had the largest empire the world. It contained around 450 million people (approximately a quarter of the world's population) and covered about a quarter of total global land area. In Africa, Britain controlled 16 colonies, including Egypt, Sudan, Nigeria, British East Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar), Sierra Leone and South Africa. However, over the next 60 years, each of these colonies became independent from Britain. How and why did this happen?

### Objectives

- Evaluate the impact of the First and Second World Wars on the decline of the British Empire in Africa.
- Explain how African nations regained their independence during the twentieth century.

### The impact of the world wars

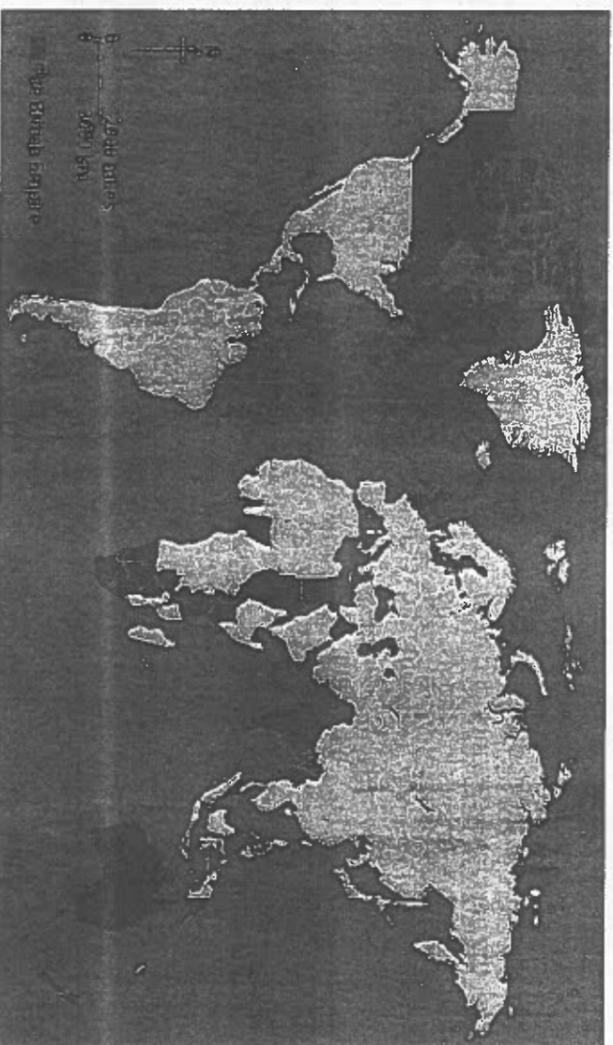
Before the First World War, Britain was one of the world's richest countries, due to its industrial power and vast empire. However, after four years of fighting, this had changed: Britain was now in debt because it had borrowed money (mainly from the USA).

Also, between 1914 and 1918, Britain had not been trading with lots of other countries because it had been concentrating on trying to win the war. As a result, these other countries had found new nations to trade with, or had developed their own industries. In short, the First World War changed Britain's global status – it was no longer the world's economic superpower.

After the war, Britain recovered some of its economic strength, but it was then completely bankrupted by the Second World War. Britain was in more debt than ever before – and needed more loans to recover. This was also the time when the USA and the USSR became world superpowers. Britain was no longer as important as it had been on the world stage.

### MAP A

The British Empire at its territorial peak in 1921.



### Leaving the empire

By the end of the war, some of Britain's colonies had been running their own affairs for years. Australia, for example, had been part of the British Empire since 1770, but by 1901 it had its own parliament that made most of the key decisions. New Zealand became a British colony in 1840, but had started to run its own affairs by 1907. South Africa had been self-governing since 1910 and Egypt since 1922. More and more colonies were now demanding the right to govern themselves.

The Second World War had weakened countries like Britain and France, which no longer had the power or wealth to hold on to their colonies. In addition, many African people (living under British and French rule) had fought for Britain and France against Germany,

defending democracy and freedom, while their own countries were not free or democratic. Seeing this injustice, lots of people living under colonial rule began to demand their own right to democracy and freedom. They wanted to elect their own leaders independently and choose their own governments.

### African independence movements

In the 1920s, an independence campaign began in West Africa. A group of West Africans created the National Congress of British West Africa (see Fact box) and asked the British government for more control over their own affairs, but the request was rejected. In Kenya, several groups also formed to fight for self-rule in the 1940s. Indeed, by the end of the Second World War there were large independence movements in several African nations including Nigeria, the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and The Gambia.

### Indian example

When India gained independence from Britain in 1947, many other countries began to demand their freedom. The British decided to allow independence in colonies they considered stable enough. They hoped that by freely granting independence, they were more likely to have a successful relationship with the newly independent countries.

### Fact

Founded around 1917, the National Congress of British West Africa was one of the earliest independence organisations in West Africa. Its founding members (mostly from the Gold Coast), pictured below, included Thomas Hutton-Mills Sr, J.E. Casely Hayford (both lawyers) and Edward Francis Small (a teacher and missionary).

### SOURCE B

Some of the founding members of the National Congress of British West Africa.



### The Gold Coast becomes Ghana

The Gold Coast (its name under British rule) was one of the most stable and prosperous countries in West Africa. In 1947–1948 Gold Coast soldiers who had fought for Britain in the war took to the streets to protest against poverty and lack of benefits for ex-soldiers. In February 1948, the British fired on the peaceful demonstrators and riots followed. Several key political leaders were jailed, including Dr Kwame Nkrumah. In 1949, Nkrumah formed the Convention People's Party (CPP), whose slogan was 'Self Government Now'. The CPP used strikes and boycotts to fight for their aims. Nkrumah was jailed again and in the 1951 elections, Nkrumah won, even though he was still in jail. The British let him out of prison and allowed him to become Prime Minister – but the Gold Coast remained part of the Empire. In 1956, he was re-elected, and the British took this as a sign that they should leave. The Gold Coast became the independent state of Ghana in March 1957.

After Ghana, several other British colonies in Africa quickly became independent. **Chart F** (page 93) shows the speed at which independence was gained throughout Africa, not just in British colonies, but in other European countries' colonies too. However, the switch to independence caused riots and severe violence in some places.

### SOURCE C

Dr Kwame Nkrumah and Queen Elizabeth II at a ball in Accra, Ghana, in 1961.



### Over to You

- 1 Describe the size and scale of the British Empire in the 1920s.
- 2 What impact did the First World War have on the British Empire?
- 3 Why were there more demands for independence in Ghana after the Second World War?

## Independence in Kenya

In the early twentieth century European farmers began to settle in Kenya, in East Africa. In 1920, Kenya formally became a British colony. The British government then introduced laws that benefited the white farmers, but pushed indigenous people from their lands. The group particularly affected by this were the Kikuyu people who farmed in the central highlands.

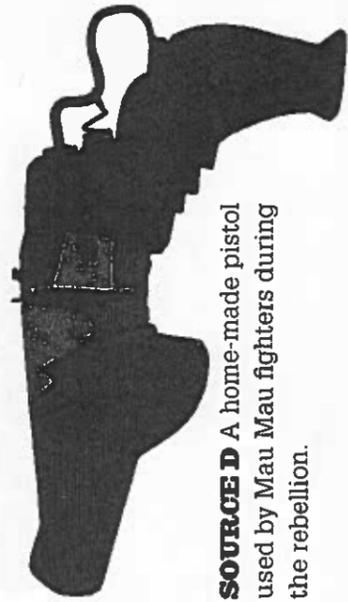
A number of groups formed to fight for self-rule in the 1940s. One group, the Kenya African Union (KAU) and its leader Jomo Kenyatta, campaigned for both independence and access to white-owned land. Another group, known as the Mau Mau, favoured violence against the white settlers who controlled large areas of land.

## The Mau Mau Rebellion

The Mau Mau were mainly young Kikuyu people, who were angry at the loss of their land and lack of political rights. In the early 1950s, they began to attack white settlers and Kikuyu people who were loyal to the British government. The Mau Mau were poorly armed (often using home-made guns and swords) but attacked in small groups so were hard to detect and moved around easily.

Not all Kikuyu people supported the Mau Mau, and when the British government offered protection from the Mau Mau and land reform, many Kikuyu fought with the British against the Mau Mau.

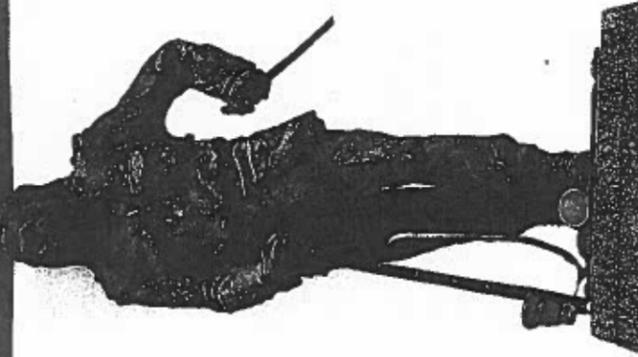
The British campaign against the Mau Mau was extremely violent and thousands were killed. Suspected rebels were put in prison camps, where conditions were terrible. Some suspects were tortured or killed. When news of these atrocities was reported in the British press there was an outcry. Many Kenyan independence leaders (including those unconnected to the Mau Mau, such as Kenyatta) were arrested and jailed. Many white settlers later chose to leave Kenya.



**SOURCE D** A home-made pistol used by Mau Mau fighters during the rebellion.

### ► SOURCE E

A statue of the Mau Mau leader Dedan Kimathi in Nairobi, Kenya, put up in 2007. The first two Presidents of independent Kenya did not support the Mau Mau, but many Kenyans have now begun to recognise the part the group played in gaining independence.



## End of the Rebellion

The Mau Mau Rebellion, as it was known, lasted for over eight years. In total, 32 white settlers were killed, and at least 11,000 Africans (but some historians put the estimates much higher). The British eventually realised that reforms were necessary. In 1957, indigenous Kenyans were granted the vote. The British government also introduced land reforms designed to reward Kenyans who had been loyal to it, and punish those who had fought with the Mau Mau. This caused long-term problems and left around a third of Kikuyu people without land.

On 12 December 1963, Kenya was granted independence, and Kenyatta, who had been released from prison in 1961, became Prime Minister.

In 2013, Kenyan survivors of torture won a legal case against the British government over abuses committed during the Mau Mau Rebellion. In response, the government apologised for torture and ill-treatment, and agreed to pay compensation.

### Fact

Countries with a majority white population were usually granted independence before countries with a mostly non-white population. Racist views at the time meant the British government believed that white people were better able to run a country successfully, which would benefit the Empire as a whole.

**► CHART F** Some of the African nations that achieved independence in the 1960s and 1970s.

Flag	Country	Ruler	Date of Independence
	Ghana (formerly the Gold Coast)	Britain	1957
	Congo	France	1960
	Mauritania	France	1960
	Nigeria	Britain	1960
	Senegal	France	1960
	Algeria	France	1962
	Uganda	Britain	1962
	Kenya	Britain	1963
	Angola	Portugal	1975
	Mozambique	Portugal	1975
	Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia)	Britain	1980

### ► SOURCE G

The city of Cape Town in South Africa. The city is known for its natural setting, its harbour, and for well-known landmarks



such as Table Mountain (the flat mountain in the background). The stadium in the centre of the photograph was built for the 2010 men's FIFA World Cup – the first time this competition was held in Africa.

## Independent Africa

For many newly independent nations, freedom brought difficulties as well as benefits. Some nations, like Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt, developed successful tourist industries, while others have made use of raw materials such as rubber, gold and diamonds despite these resources having been so depleted by previous centuries of colonial exploitation. Many African nations have developed fast-paced economies with vibrant cities and culture. However, the impact of European colonialism has resulted in ongoing problems in many independent African nations. In some countries, rivalries between ethnic groups have escalated into bloody civil wars. This happened in Nigeria in the 1960s, Uganda in the 1980s, and Sierra Leone, Rwanda and Somalia in the 1990s. Many nations have struggled to create their own systems of government, build up industry and trade, and cope with differences between groups of people. However, perhaps the greatest problem they have had to deal with is poverty.

### ► INTERPRETATION H

Adapted from a 2016 newspaper article by Professor David Olusoga, a historian of the British Empire.

'The empire did bring economic developments and peace to some parts of the world, though many of those developments did not last and were mainly arranged to suit British interests. And it delivered war and devastation to other regions.'

### Over to You

- 1 Look at **Source D**. What can you infer about the Mau Mau Rebellion from this source?
- 2 Describe some challenges many African nations have faced since independence.

### Consequence

Describe two consequences of the Mau Mau Rebellion in Kenya.